



State Representative Mary Ann Carson

Dear Friend,

As your elected Representative in Hartford, I am honored to serve you in the House of Representatives. The following state funding specific to the 108th District has been awarded since my last district-wide report:

- ★ \$500,000 for the connection of Consolidated and Meeting House Schools to the proposed water system in the New Fairfield town center.
- ★ \$276,025 for construction of road and sidewalk renovations in New Milford's downtown area.
- ★ \$92,000 for renovations to the Historic Swift House in Kent. The facility is one of only two authentic 18th century buildings in town open to the public.
- ★ \$2,500 for for a Veterans Memorial to be constructed in Kent. The memorial will feature names of Kent Veterans who have served in wars from World War II through the present day.

I am currently working with Sherman officials, who are in the process of applying for Small Town Economic Assistance Program(STEAP) funds for the new fiscal year that begins July 1.

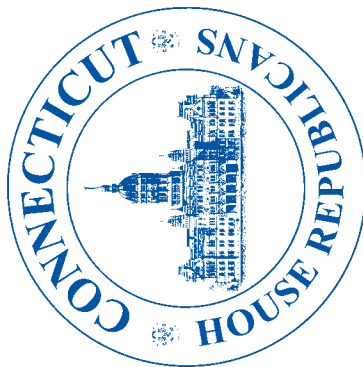
Sincerely,

Mary Ann



Rep. Carson meets with students from the Kent Center School during their tour of the State Capitol in May 2008.

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Hartford, CT
Permit #3937



State Representative
MARY ANN CARSON
Proudly Serving the 108th District
Kent ★ New Fairfield ★ New Milford ★ Sherman



Representative Mary Ann Carson
Room 4200, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

TELEPHONE:
(800) 842-1423

E-MAIL:
maryann.carson@housegop.ct.gov

www.housegop.ct.gov

2008

LEGISLATIVE REPORT



State Representative
MARY ANN CARSON
Proudly Serving the 108th District
Kent ★ New Fairfield ★ New Milford ★ Sherman

Fighting For Your Interests...

Middle class Connecticut families are struggling. Young adults are leaving the state for jobs and housing. Senior citizens often cannot afford to retire here. With these realities in mind, my colleagues and I worked to restrain state spending and hold down taxes to help keep families, jobs and seniors in Connecticut during the 2008 legislative session. It is our responsibility as your elected officials to help make the state safer and more affordable.

BUDGET: Streamlining Government; Helping Middle Class Taxpayers

- ★ In the face of economic hardship, dwindling revenues and a projected \$67 million state deficit, my colleagues and I proposed an alternative budget that included:
- ★ A cut to state gasoline taxes. Despite a postponement of the gross receipts tax increase scheduled for July, state residents still pay the highest gas taxes in the nation.
- ★ The reduction of state expenditures by \$163 million through voluntary early retirements.
- ★ The abolition of a nuisance tax on job-creating small businesses (aka the business entity tax) that are the backbone of our local economy.
- ★ In addition, we proposed tax credits for energy costs and healthcare.

EDUCATION: A Commitment To Our Students

- ★ Connecticut's two-year budget contains a \$181 million increase in state school aid for 2008, which will continue with slight increases into 2009.
- ★ A new law is designed to revise the the state's beginning teacher evaluation and support system to establish a more effective method of assessing teacher skills and qualifications.

SECURITY: Safety for Families, Children

- ★ New legislation doubles and triples sentences for persistent dangerous felons and makes someone convicted of second degree burglary or home invasion ineligible for parole until he or she has served 85 percent of their sentence.
- ★ Legislation I cosponsored will promote service in volunteer fire departments.

SENIORS: Health Care

- ★ An important new law allows up to 5,000 Connecticut elderly and disabled the ability to receive long-term care in their homes without having to go into a nursing home.
- ★ New legislation requires the state Department of Social Services to amend Medicaid plans to include the full array of hospice services.

VETERANS: Recognizing their Service

- ★ A number of benefits to veterans will be improved, and Gold Star license plates will be issued to family members to honor those who have fallen in the line of duty. "Support our Troops" plates also will be issued.
- ★ New legislation is designed to extend eligibility for the State Veterans' Home and the State Veterans' cemeteries. Also, nearly 300 Veterans in the 108th District recently received the new "Connecticut Wartime Service Medal."



Providing Leadership